

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G11B20/14 G11B20/10 G11B27/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G11B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2002, no. 12, 12 December 2002 (2002-12-12) -& JP 2002 216424 A (RICOH CO LTD), 2 August 2002 (2002-08-02)	1-4, 8, 9, 12, 16, 17
A	the whole document	5
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 05, 31 May 1996 (1996-05-31) & JP 8 007468 A (TOSHIBA CORP; others: 01), 12 January 1996 (1996-01-12) abstract	1, 12
A	EP 1 150 291 A (SONY CORP) 31 October 2001 (2001-10-31) abstract claims 3, 13	5
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 July 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

08/09/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 26, 1 July 2002 (2002-07-01) &amp; JP 2001 266493 A (SONY CORP), 28 September 2001 (2001-09-28) abstract</p> <p>-----</p>	5

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/004406

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
JP 2002216424	A	02-08-2002	NONE	
JP 8007468	A	12-01-1996	NONE	
EP 1150291	A	31-10-2001	JP 2001297523 A CN 1335617 A EP 1150291 A2 US 2001030922 A1	26-10-2001 13-02-2002 31-10-2001 18-10-2001
JP 2001266493	A	28-09-2001	NONE	